

Editorial

Global Spine Congress 2016 and World Forum for Spine Research

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Welcome to the 2016 Global Spine Congress (GSC) and the World Forum for Spine Research (WFSR) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. These events mark the 5th annual meeting for AOSpine, and showcase the very latest approaches to spine care. For the first time in history, the Global Spine Congress takes place alongside the World Forum for Spine Research, enabling an even larger number of participants to create an individualized program across both events.

The GSC is not only the most important academic annual meeting of the nearly 30,000 AOSpine members and associates internationally; it is also one of the biggest gatherings for thousands of spine surgeons from all over the world. The event provides an outstanding forum to exchange ideas, network with fellow spine professionals, learn about the latest research, techniques, and technologies in spine surgery, as well as new approaches to spine treatment and intervertebral disc biologics for all spinal pathologies. The Global Spine Congress is unique in its approach to sharing knowledge and developing new approaches to the treatment of spinal disorders in order to help advance spine care.

The WFSR is based upon the unique concept of a multidisciplinary meeting with a clear focus on one key topic. In 2016, the emphasis will lie on showcasing spine basic science and clinical research focused on the Spine and Intervertebral Disc—Biologics.

The WFSR has established itself at the forefront of international spine care research during the past years through its commitment towards supporting researchers in developing and promoting scientific innovation, collaboration, and contribution in fields related to Intervertebral Disc Degeneration. The 2016 edition in Dubai will continue to offer a unique global platform with a stimulating and focused environment for vibrant discussions, knowledge sharing, thought leadership, and new friendships for clinicians, scientist, researchers, and engineers through invited lectures as well as podium and poster presentations. Renowned international faculty will lecture on the rapid advance in basic, translational, and clinical research in this area.

As a supplement to the Global Spine Journal, this book contains 600 carefully selected abstracts in the following areas:

1. Degenerative cervical
2. Degenerative lumbar
3. Deformity—thoracolumbar (Adult)
4. Deformity—thoracolumbar (Adolescent)
5. Deformity—cervical
6. Trauma—cervical
7. Trauma—thoracolumbar
8. Trauma—other
9. Tumors
10. Arthroplasty—cervical
11. Arthroplasty—lumbar
12. Diagnostics clinical
13. Diagnostics nonclinical
14. Imaging
15. Minimally invasive spine surgery
16. Surgical complications
17. Epidemiology
18. Infections
19. Medical economics
20. Nonoperative clinical treatments
21. Spine biologics, bone—clinical
22. Spine biologics, bone—nonclinical
23. Spine biologics, other—clinical
24. Spine biologics, other—nonclinical
25. Disc biologics—clinical
26. Disc biologics—nonclinical
27. Disc degeneration—clinical
28. Disc degeneration—nonclinical
29. Back/neck pain—clinical
30. Back/neck pain—nonclinical
31. Basic Science—other
32. Biomechanics—other
33. Novel technologies—clinical
34. Novel technologies—nonclinical
35. Navigation—clinical
36. Navigation—nonclinical

We are delighted to welcome the following international spine societies, who will be supporting the 2016 Global Spine Congress and the World Forum for Spine Research:

- Africa Spine
- American Association of Neurological Surgeons
- Cervical Spine Research Society
- Pan Arab Spine Society
- Egyptian Orthopaedic Association
- Egyptian Spine Association
- Emirates Orthopaedic Society
- European Association of Neurosurgical Societies
- EUROSPINE
- Iran Spine Surgeon's Society
- Kuwait Spine Society
- Neurosurgical Society of Iran
- North American Spine Society
- Pan Arab Orthopaedic Association
- Scoliosis Research Society

We are convinced that the oral presentations, symposia, and poster presentations will encourage lively discussions among participants and generate new ideas to help advance spine care. We hope you find it a valuable and rewarding experience.

Global Spine Congress
Jeffrey C. Wang, Congress Chair
K. Daniel Riew, Congress Co-Chair
Mike Grevitt, Congress Co-Chair
Ziya Gokaslan, Scientific Co-Chair
Lawrence Lenke, Scientific Co-Chair

World Forum for Spine Research
Keita Ito, Co-Chair
Shanmuganthan Rajasekaran, Co-Chair
Tim Yoon, Scientific Chair